

Congressman Jo Bonner, R-Alabama, offered the following reaction to the World Trade Organization's preliminary report concluding that Boeing has received subsidies.

"What we have learned today from the WTO preliminary report validates the Air Force decision that the WTO decisions should not be a consideration in the tanker competition," Rep. Bonner said.

"Since June, the WTO's investigations have found that both manufacturers received government subsidies. It remains clear this issue should have no relevance in the ongoing competition between EADS (Airbus) and Boeing to build the new U.S. Air Force KC-X tanker.

"While EADS has produced a flying, mission-capable tanker to fulfill the U.S. Air force's requirements for the future, Boeing has no flying prototype and stubbornly seeks to deflect attention away from its aircraft design's shortcomings by raising the subsidies red herring. It's time for Boeing to stop making excuses and allow this procurement to move forward without further delay or interference."

